



Notre Dame Middle School *at a glance*

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Established: 1996

Number of Students: 135 (2011-12)

Total number of graduates: 299



Mission: NDMS is a Catholic school for young women sponsored by the School Sisters of Notre Dame. Following in the Christian tradition, Notre Dame fosters respect, responsibility and sharing of personal talents, and prepares students for admittance to a college preparatory high school. In a bi-literate (English and Spanish) setting, with emphasis on leadership skills, critical thinking and social justice, young women are empowered to make positive contributions to society.

Our Model: NDMS is a private, Catholic, all-girls middle school, providing quality education to a mainly Hispanic population of underserved youth. It is based on a Nativity model school offering intensive academic preparation with small classes, small group and individual tutoring and an extended day with a mandatory after-school program of study, sports, art and other enrichment activities. Parental involvement, participation of community volunteers and student leadership enhancement opportunities are integral to this program.

Our Programs: The After School Enrichment program runs from 3:30-6:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday and provides a healthy snack, a variety of activities and a silent study hall where tutoring is available. The Graduate Support program provides guidance and financial aid to all NDMS graduates in high school and college, along with transportation and after school study halls. There is a mandatory summer school program for all incoming 5th graders and other selected students along with summer camps available for all students.

Funding: Funding for NDMS is provided through the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (about 92% of our students qualify) and tuition (\$1,100 per student if she doesn't qualify for Choice). While Choice provides \$6,500 per student, the cost to educate a child is more like \$13,500. The remainder of these operating funds are made up through fundraising from special events, foundation and corporate grants and donations from generous individuals.



NDMS has been recognized as a PAVE (Partners for Values in Education) partner school for exemplifying operational efficiency and sound governance.